

with the added hazard of literally hundreds of large toads. The following morning was very dull and the only addition of any interest was *Taracus theophrastus* found in small numbers resting in low thorn bushes, easily detected due to their distinctive black and white undersides. I then drove to Marrakesh and on towards Casablanca. I stopped a few miles North of Marrakesh to examine a fairly large patch of cultivated purple coloured vetch-like plants some distance from the road. The heat at this relatively low level was intense and although nothing was flying on the bare ground, this single patch of flowers yielded numbers of *P. rapae*, *P. daplidice*, *T. theophrastus*, *L. boeticus*, *Syntarucus pirithous*, *Zizeeria knysna* and *Azanus jesous*. I slept that night, 6th July, near Rabat and as the next day was very cold, I saw no butterflies. However, on the 8th of July I stopped between Asilah and Tangier and took *Coenonympha arcanioides* and several very fresh *I. feisthamelii* before catching the ferry to Gibraltar later that evening. I'm sure the customs official suspected me of smuggling drugs as he insisted on closely examining the cork ends of my setting boards, presumably looking for hidden compartments, before I was allowed on the ferry. The ferry arrived in Gibraltar about half past eight that evening and it was real pleasure to sleep in a roomy bed again.

I spent the 9th of July sightseeing and the following day I went on a day trip (without my net) to Madeek, east from Tangier. When I returned to the Mediterranean steps on the 11th and 12th of July I found that *P. fidia* was now numerous with the sexes in equal numbers and that *L. boeticus*, *S. pirithous*, *P. aegeria* and *M. proto* were all to be found in small numbers, but worn. I returned to England on the 13th July, well pleased with my collecting. My only regrets are firstly, that I saw no sign of *Anthocarie belia euphenoides* for which Gibraltar is the type location and secondly, that post-cards sent to the UK from Tangier have, due to their non arrival, cast serious doubts within my immediate family as to my integrity!!

Acknowledgments

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THE SILVER-BARRED: DELTOTE BANKIANA F. IN ESSEX.
— A single specimen of this uncommon moth came to light on the edge of the marsh near my home on 14th June 1980. Although it may have been a migrant, this is a very under-collected area and one wonders whether it might be breeding here. According to Firmin et al., *Guide to the Butterflies and Larger Moths of Essex* (1975), the species has been recorded only twice before from Essex. — J. B. FISHER, Beaumont House, Beaumont-cum-Moze, Thorpe-le-Soken, Essex.